Novartis Docket No. PAT051386-US-CIP01

MoFo Docket No.: 223002118020

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Susan BARNETT et al.

Application No.: 09/610,313 Confirmation No.: 4221

Filed: July 5, 2000 Art Unit: 1635

For: POLYNUCLEOTIDES ENCODING

ANTIGENIC HIV TYPE C POLYPEPTIDES, POLYPEPTIDES AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: J. E. Angell

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MAIL STOP: AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the Final Office Action dated September 8, 2010 (Paper No. 20100903), for which a response was due on December 8, 2010. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.